

June 15, 2006

Kathleen Luedtke
Division of Disability & Elder Services
P.O. Box 7851
1 W. Wilson St., Room 850
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Ms. Luedtke:

This is to respond to the direction to provide a response by June 15 as to how Long Term Care Planning groups will organize to assure the input and involvement of stakeholders and consumers in this planning effort.

As you know, the NEW-LTCC was the last of the groups to have its application accepted, and to be awarded the acceptance formally by Secretary Nelson. We have had one organizational meeting of all the partners and one by the steering committee for the group. Both of these were with TMG staff.

The full consortium meets again on June 28 and one of the agenda items is for members to bring names of candidates for a subcommittee to oversee development of a plan for stakeholders/consumers' involvement. We are also in the process of hiring a local project manager and developing TMG's work plan for us. We should be able in the next month to bring a project manager on board and have our subcommittee members identified to then begin the planning process for stakeholders/consumers.

We would envision the stakeholders group helping us develop a consistent approach in the region. Some of the partner counties have already done presentations to local stakeholders to start to get them up to speed on the background of this project, so that we can recruit their assistance. Examples of this in Winnebago's case, for example, include presentations to our Long Term Support Committee; Long Term Support Providers group; our County Board and Human Services Board. Representatives of Winnebago and Outagamie County also met with representatives of the Aurora Health Care system to explore their interest and involvement for down the road.

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I realize this is not a finished plan for stakeholders/consumers' involvement in the planning process. We are however in the process and have already begun reaching out to some of the potential interested parties to begin our planning subcommittee.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Quam, Director
(920) 236-4815

MAQ:dd

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